

# **Hospital Inquiry (HINQ) Technical Manual V. 4.0**

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# Introduction

Main features of the HINQ package include the following.

- Requests may be sent individually, when necessary, or numerous requests may be forwarded in batch mode
- Status of Suspense file entries is automatically updated by the system to indicate the current status of the request
- System returns possible response matches in the form of an abbreviated message response
- Expanded informational response is obtained
- Provides the capability to update returned HINQ data directly into the PATIENT file

A HINQ inquiry is a request from a VA Medical Center for information pertaining to a veteran. HINQ requests are sent from a **VISTA** computer over IDCU (Integrated Data Communications Utility) to a remote VBA (Veterans Benefits Administration) computer where veteran information is stored. Requests are processed by the VBA computer and returned via the utility to the **VISTA** computer.

HINQ inquiries can only be directly sent to the VBA computer by users who are holders of the HINQ security key, DVBHINQ, and who have received a HINQ password. Other users may make HINQ requests but these are placed into a file (called the HINQ Suspense file) to be sent by a user with the required security to the VBA computer at a later time.

The HINQ Suspense file serves two major functions. As its name suggests, HINQ requests can be placed in this file for later processing. These requests are entered into the file with a status of PENDING. Selected options allow holders of the HINQ security key to release these requests for transmission to the VBA computer. The file also serves as a log in that HINQ responses from the VBA computer are also entered here in a NEW, ABBREVIATED or ERROR status. This provides the medical center with a log of HINQ activity.

The status of Suspense file entries is updated automatically by the system to indicate the current status of the request. Following are the five available statuses for entries in the Suspense file.

## PENDING

When a request is placed into the Suspense file for later transmission, the entry is given the status of PENDING. The Suspense file should be used to store requests for batch transmission or when it is not possible to send the request directly to the VBA computer as in the following cases.

- The user does not have the required security - HINQ key and password.
- The network communication system is not functioning.
- The VBA computer is not available for the date and time. Since the VBA computer is only available from 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM daily (Eastern or Central Time) and not on weekends or holidays, requests during these times must be entered in the Suspense file.

When these conditions are detected by the HINQ software, requests are automatically directed to the Suspense file.

## NEW MAIL

Entries in the Suspense file with the status of PENDING are updated to the NEW MAIL status when a request has been processed without error by the VBA computer and a response has been returned to the HINQ mail group.

## ERROR

Entries in the Suspense file with the status of PENDING are updated to the ERROR status when an error has occurred in the processing of this HINQ inquiry at the VBA computer. For example, the HINQ password was missing or invalid.

## ABBREVIATED

Entries in the Suspense file with the status of PENDING are updated to the ABBREVIATED status when an abbreviated response has been received. An abbreviated response occurs when more than one record is found for the message sent. The system will return multiple abbreviated records so that the hospital may select the correct record and initiate another transaction using data from the abbreviated record.

## IDCU ERROR

Entries in the Suspense file with the status of PENDING are updated to the IDCU ERROR status when an error has occurred in the return transmission of the HINQ string.

The HINQ package interfaces with the PIMS package allowing users to make HINQ Suspense file entries through select PIMS options. However, the MAS parameter, "Ask HINQ at Registration", and the MCCR parameter, "Ask HINQ in MCCR", must be set to YES in order to accomplish this.

The HINQ Package includes the following options/menus.

#### HINQUP FEATURES

The options contained in this menu encompass all the updating features. These options are only available to holders of the DVBHINQ and DG ELIGIBILITY security keys.

#### ENTER A REQUEST IN THE HINQ SUSPENSE FILE

This option is used to enter requests for inquiries into the HINQ Suspense file.

#### GENERATE HINQ REQUESTS

This option is only available to holders of the HINQ security key, DVBHINQ. When requests for HINQ inquiries are entered through this option, PENDING entries in the Suspense file are transmitted to the VBA computer.

#### INDIVIDUAL HINQ REQUEST

This option is only available to holders of the HINQ security key, DVBHINQ, and is used to immediately transmit requests for HINQ inquiries to the VBA computer. This option does not create Suspense file entries.

#### PRINT SUSPENSE FILE MESSAGES

This option is used to print a listing of those patients currently in the Suspense file with a HINQ response message. You may choose to print by patient, requestor or date/time.

#### PROCESS THE HINQ SUSPENSE FILE

This option is only available to holders of the HINQ security key, DVBHINQ. It is used to release PENDING requests in the Suspense file to the VBA computer.

#### STATUS OF HINQ BY PATIENT

This option gives information about entries in the Suspense file including the HINQ response message if one has been received. Depending on how your site has this option set up, the option may only be available to holders of the HINQ security key, DVBHINQ.

#### UTILITIES FOR SUSPENSE FILE

The options contained in this menu are used to perform HINQ utility functions such as purge entries in the HINQ Suspense file, delete an entry from the HINQ Suspense file, edit HINQ parameters and recompile HINQ templates. Depending on how your site has this menu set up, it may only be available to holders of the HINQ security key, DVBHINQ.

#### VIEW THE HINQ SUSPENSE FILE

This option displays the entries in the Suspense file on the screen.

# Orientation

The HINQ Technical Manual has been divided into major sections for general clarity and simplification of the information being presented. This manual is intended to be a reference document. While the user is free to review the document from "cover to cover", it is best used by reviewing specific sections which contain the information required for a particular need. The Files Section shows the pointer relationships between the HINQ files and files external to the HINQ package. This section also has a listing of each HINQ Input and Print template. The Implementation and Maintenance Section provides information on any aspect of the package that is site configurable. The Exported Options Section provides a menu diagram of the HINQ package. The Routines Section contains information about the HINQ routines, including a description of each, routines to map, and callable routines. The Security Section contains legal requirements and recommended VA FileMan access codes. Lastly, there are brief sections on archiving and purging, how to generate on-line documentation, and package-wide variables for the HINQ package.

## **How To Use This Manual**

The HINQ Technical Manual is provided in Adobe Acrobat PDF (portable document format) files. The Acrobat Reader is used to view the documents. If you do not have the Acrobat Reader loaded, it is available from the **VISTA** Home Page, "Viewers" Directory.

Once you open the file, you may click on the desired entry name in the table of contents on the left side of the screen to go to that entry in the document. You may print any or all pages of the file. Click on the "Print" icon and select the desired pages. Then click "OK".

## Implementation and Maintenance

There are several parameters associated with the HINQ package that are site configurable. These include IDCU ADDRESS, IDCU USERNAME-PASSWORD, HINQ DEVICE NAME, BATCH DEVICE NAME, and RDPC (Regional Data Processing Center) TIME DIFFERENCE. They can be accessed through the Edit HINQ Suspense File Parameters option through the Utilities for Suspense File Menu. If you have never installed HINQ and/or do not have the old HINQ parameters, you must use the Edit HINQ Suspense File Parameters option to set the parameters (refer to the HINQ Menu Section of the HINQ User Manual for specific instructions).

Once the parameters are set, the system will update the parameters automatically. For example, the LAST NET-WORKDAY parameter contains the date of the previous NETWORK DAY and is set and updated by the system. If necessary, this parameter can be set to an earlier date to view the HINQ Suspense file for a time previous to the last network day.

There are two site configurable outputs. USE HIGH INTENSITY is used to turn on/off the appearance of boldface type and the blinking character on the HINQ screens. The blinking character (arrow, etc.) is used to bring attention to a discrepancy or error between data in the PATIENT file and the HINQ response. HINQ MAIL MESSAGES, if set to YES, will generate mail response messages for batch HINQ requests (i.e., when the Generate HINQ Requests and Process the HINQ Suspense file options are utilized). If set to NO, only the summary bulletin will be generated.

# Routines

The following routines use a hard coded timed read for the purpose of shortening the length of time for the read without changing DTIME. In most cases, these reads are not involved in user input.

DVBHQDB DVBHQDX DVBHQD1 DVBHQDL DVBNTEG

## ***Callable Routines***

EN^DVBHQZ4 can be called with DFN defined to enter a request in the HINQ Suspense file.

## ***Routines to Map***

It is recommended that the following be mapped: DVBHQDL, DVBHQUP, DVBHQDB. Also map all the routines generated by the compiled templates, DVBHC\*.

## ***Routine List***

Below is a list of routines associated with the HINQ package, followed by a brief description of the function of each.

DVBHDBA1,DVBHDBA2 DVBHDBA3,DVBHDBA4 DVBHDBA5,DVBHDBA6 DVBHDBA7,DVBHDBA8 DVBHDBA9,DVBHDBAA, DVBHDBAB	Used in updating the DISABILITIES file.
DVBHDEL	Used to delete entries from the Suspense file.
DVBHIQD	Creates the HINQ request string to be sent out.
DVBHIQM	Sets up the message header and text for MailMan.
DVBHIQR	Directs the HINQ response string to routines DVBHQR1, DVBHQR2, DVBHQR3. It also decodes HINQ errors.



DVBHPOST	Post init routine.
DVBHPRE	Pre init routine.
DVBHQAT	Packs the incoming data string.
DVBHQD1	Driver for the Individual HINQ Request option. It sends a HINQ request string and receives a HINQ response string.
DVBHQDB	Provides the TaskMan interface for batch processing the HINQ Suspense file.
DVBHQDE	Creates the HINQ request string from direct input.
DVBHQDL	Provides the physical link to the mini-engine and the remote VBA computer.
DVBHQDX	Tests the physical link to the mini-engine and the remote VBA computer.
DVBHQEDT	Used for the update option.
DVBHQM1,DVBHQM11 DVBHQM12,DVBHQM13 DVBHQM2,DVBHQM3 DVBHQM31	Creates and formats the HINQ response mail message for both the BIRLS only, and C&P and BIRLS.
DVBHQM4	Creates and formats the HINQ abbreviated response message.
DVBHQPU	Purges the Suspense file.
DVBHQR1,DVBHQR11 DVBHQR12,DVBHQR13 DVBHQR2,DVBHQR3	Used to extract and uncode the incoming data strings from VBA. Stores the information in local variables and arrays.
DVBHQREC	Used to recompile all HINQ templates.
DVBHQSE	Shows the contents of the Suspense file by status.
DVBHQST	Used to check sum calculation and bulletin.
DVBHQTM	Checks the date and time for availability of RDPC and sets system parameters.
DVBHQUE	Shows the contents of the HINQ Suspense file by LAST NETWORKDAY.
DVBHQUP	Main driver for the update option.
DVBHQUS	Shows the status of a HINQ request including the response message.

DVBHQUT,DVBHQZ4	Used to make entries in the HINQ Suspense file.
DVBHQZ6	Prints the HINQ Suspense file including HINQ response messages.
DVBHS1,DVBHS2 DVBHS3,DVBHS4, DVBHS5,DVBHS6, DVBHSVER	Used in printing parts of the HINQ update screens.
DVBHUTIL	Used as a general utility program.
DVBNTEG	Checks the integrity of HINQ routines.

# Files

## ***Globals and Files***

The main global used in the HINQ package is ^DVB. The main file is the HINQ Suspense file (#395.5) located in global ^DVB(395.5,.

It is recommended, but not required, that global ^DVB be journaled.

Field 14.9 of the NEW PERSON file must contain a unique HINQ employee number for each user with the HINQ password.

## ***File List***

<u>FILE #</u>	<u>FILE NAME</u>	<u>GLOBAL</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
395	DVB PARAMETERS	^DVB(395,	Contains all the HINQ parameters that are necessary to run the HINQ package.
*395.1	ENTITLEMENT CODES	^DVB(395.1,	Stores the entitlement codes and their meanings.
*395.2	ANATOMICAL-LOSS CODES	^DVB(395.2,	Stores the anatomical-loss codes and their meanings.
*395.3	MONTHLY COMPENSATION	^DVB(395.3,	Stores the monthly compensation codes and their meanings
*395.4	DIARY DEFINITIONS	^DVB(395.4,	Stores the diary definition codes and their meanings.
395.5	HINQ SUSPENSE	^DVB(395.5,	Stores the HINQ requests and the returning HINQ information.
395.7	HINQ AUDIT	^DVB(395.7,	Stores who updated a patient's record thru the HINQ Update
option			and when. Stores only the last update.

\*File comes with data which will overwrite existing data, if specified

## ***Bulletins***

HINQ contains a bulletin, DVB HINQ RESPONSE, which will be sent when the processing of the HINQ Suspense file has returned with information. It will contain the number of successful responses, abbreviated responses and error responses. The patient names will be provided with the error responses.

## ***Compiled Templates***

<b>Template</b>	<b>Routine</b>	<b>Type</b>
DVBHINQ UPDATE	DVBHCE*	Input
DVBHINQ PAT-HINQ COMP	DVBHCG*	Print

These templates can be compiled/recompiled through the recompile option in the utilities option of HINQ.

## ***File Flow (Relationships between files)***

1. VA FileMan Menu
2. Data Dictionary Utilities Menu
3. List File Attributes Option
4. Enter File # or range of File #s
5. Select Listing Format: Standard
6. You will see what files point to the selected file. To see what files the selected file points to, look for fields that say "POINTER TO".

# Exported Options

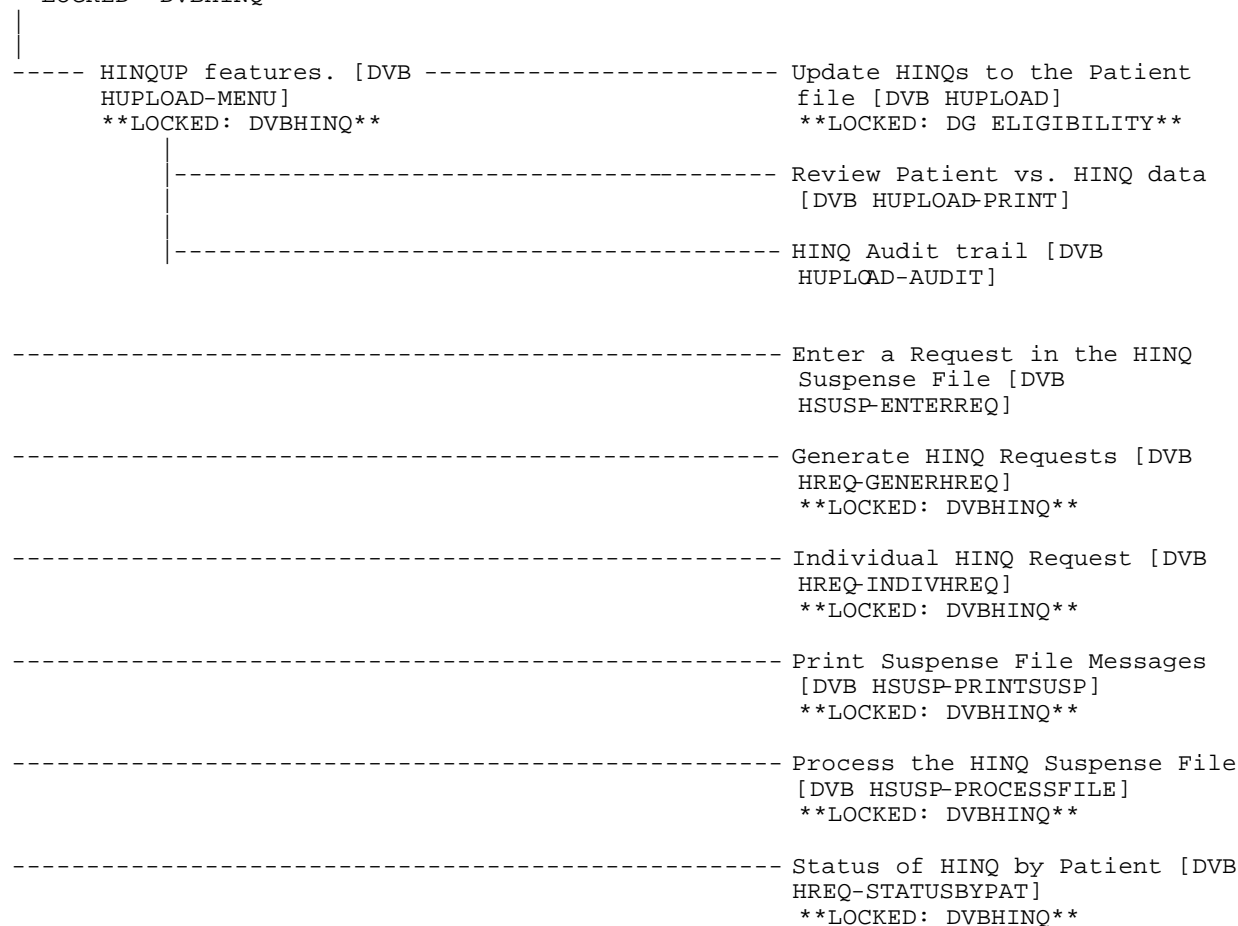
The HINQ product exports 2 menu structures. These are HINQ Menu and HINQ User Menu (excludes all Utilities for Suspense File options).

**HINQ Transaction Test** - This option is used to determine if the communication link between the hospital and the RDPC is functioning properly. It will function exactly like the individual HINQ request but there is no user intervention. As this option executes, it will display the steps it is taking on the screen. The transaction test will always return an error response of "invalid social security number" if the link is up and running.

## Menu Diagram

HINQ Menu (Version 4.0) (DVB HMENU-HINQ)

\*\*LOCKED: DVBHINQ\*\*



```

----- Utilities for Suspense File [DVB ----- Create a mail message [DVB
HSUSP-UTILITY]                               HSUSP-MAIL]

|-----Delete entry from HINQ Suspense
|file. [DVB HSUSP-DELETE]
|
|-----Edit HINQ Suspense File
|Parameters [DVB
|HSUSP-EDPARAMETERS]
|
|----- Network Enable/Disable [DVB --- Disable HINQ Network [DVB
|HNET-WORK]                               HNET-DISABLE]
|
|----- Enable HINQ Network [DVB
|HNET-ENABLE]
|
|-----Purge Suspense File (retain 30
|days) [DVB HSUSP-PURGEFILE]
|
|-----Recompile HINQ templates [DVB
|HRECOMPILE]
|
|-----Select View Suspense File [DVB
|HSUSP-SELVIEWFILE]
|
----- View the HINQ Suspense File
[DVB HSUSP-VIEWFILE]

```

## Archiving and Purging

Although the HINQ package does not have an actual archiving feature at this time, the Purge Suspense File option allows old entries in the HINQ Suspense file to be deleted. This serves the same purpose as an archiving feature because it frees up space for current entries in the HINQ Suspense file. Deletion of the old entries through the Purge Suspense File option is permanent, whereas deletion through an archiving feature would not be.

The recommended procedure is to queue the AUTO HINQ PURGE option through TaskMan to run on a monthly basis. This will maintain the size of the HINQ Suspense file.

# External/Internal Relations

## ***External Relations***

FileMan Version 18

Kernel Version 6.5

All HINQ responses when using the "Individual" option are transferred to MailMan messages with a call to XMD using standard MailMan conventions. HINQ requests entered into the Suspense file are stored there for future use. A Bulletin will be sent to the DVBHINQ mail group to notify members of returned HINQ responses after processing of the Suspense file has taken place.

When utilizing the Update HINQs to the Patient file option, the MAS consistency checker will be run if a patient's data is updated with HINQ information. This is done to correct any inconsistencies in the patient's record. It is a direct call to the ^DGRPC MAS routine. Information concerning the functionality of the consistency checker may be found in the PIMS User Manual.

HINQ will now utilize the NEW PERSON file instead of the USER file. The HINQ EMPLOYEE NUMBER (field 14.9) was write protected in the NEW PERSON file. HINQ has obtained permission to take the write protection off Field 14.9 of the NEW PERSON file and place it on Field 14.9 of the USER file. This way the sites can update the HINQ EMPLOYEE NUMBER using FileMan.

## ***Internal Relations***

### **Stand-alone files**

395.1 Entitlement Codes

395.2 Anatomical-Loss Codes

395.3 Monthly Compensation

395.4 Diary Definitions

### **Stand-alone options**

Enter a Request in the HINQ Suspense File

View the HINQ Suspense File

Edit HINQ Suspense File Parameters

Delete Entry from HINQ Suspense File



## Package-Wide Variables

There are no package-wide variables associated with the HINQ package.

### ***Key Variables***

Listed below are a few of the many important variables associated with the HINQ package.

DVBDEV	IDCU device
DVBERR	VBA error message
DVBLOG	RDPC IDCU code
DVBLEN	Length of HINQ response string from VBA
DVBNUM	Employee number
DVBSTN	Station number
DVBZ	HINQ request string
X(N)	Receives HINQ response from RDPC

# Security

## **General Security**

With the storage of the returning HINQ information, a check sum has been developed to insure the integrity of the stored data. If the HINQ information in the Suspense file has been adjusted since the last HINQ, a warning message will appear (see below) and the HINQ data will not be accessible.

"HINQ data does NOT seem right  
Re-HINQ and/or Notify system manager.  
HINQ check sum failure for {patient name}"

## **Security Keys**

DVBHINQ	Access to options requiring HINQ password
DG ELIGIBILITY	Access to Update HINQs to the Patient File option

## **Legal Requirements**

There are no known legal requirements associated with this package.

## **VA FileMan Access Codes**

FileMan Access Codes are not sent out with any of the HINQ files. Below is a list of the suggested FileMan Access Codes associated with each file that belongs to the HINQ package.

<u>FILE NUMBER</u>	<u>FILE NAME</u>	<u>DD ACCESS</u>	<u>RD ACCESS</u>	<u>WR ACCESS</u>	<u>DEL ACCESS</u>	<u>LAYGO ACCESS</u>
395	DVB PARAMETER	#	D	d	d	d
395.1	ENTITLEMENT CODES	@	D	@	@	@
395.2	ANATOMICAL LOSS CODES	@	D	@	@	@
395.3	MONTHLY COMPENSATION	@	D	@	@	@
395.4	DIARY DEFINITIONS	@	D	@	@	@
395.5	HINQ SUSPENSE	#	D	d	d	d
395.7	HINQ AUDIT	#	D	d	d	d

# How to Generate On-line Documentation

This section describes some of the various methods by which users may secure HINQ technical documentation. On-line technical documentation pertaining to the HINQ software, in addition to that which is located in the help prompts and on the help screens found throughout the HINQ package, may be generated through utilization of several KERNEL options. These include, but are not limited to: %INDEX, Diagram Menus, MenuMan Inquire to OPTION File and Print OPTIONS file, and VA FileMan List File Attributes.

Entering question marks at the "Select...Option:" prompt may also provide users with valuable technical information. For example, a single question mark (?) lists all options which can be accessed from the current option. Entering two question marks (??) lists all options accessible from the current one, showing the formal name and lock for each. Three question marks (???) displays a brief description for each option in a menu while an option name preceded by a question mark (?OPTION) shows extended help, if available, for that option.

For a more exhaustive option listing and further information about other utilities which supply on-line technical information, please consult the KERNEL REFERENCE MANUAL.

## %INDEX

This option analyzes the structure of a routine(s) to determine in part if the routine(s) adheres to Programming Standards. The %INDEX output may include the following components: Compiled list of Errors and Warnings, Routine Listing, Local Variables, Global Variables, Naked Globals, Label References, and External References. By running %INDEX for a specified set of routines, the user is afforded the opportunity to discover any deviations from Programming Standards which exist in the selected routine(s) and to see how routines interact with one another, that is, which routines call or are called by other routines.

To run %INDEX for the HINQ package, specify the following at the "routine(s) ?>" prompt: DVBH\* (-) DVBHC\*.

HINQ initialization routines and compiled template routines which reside in the UCI in which %INDEX is being run, as well as local routines found within the HINQ namespace, should be omitted at the "routine(s) ?>" prompt. To omit routines from selection, preface the namespace with a minus sign (-). Use an apostrophe (') to accomplish this in ISM.

## DIAGRAM MENUS

To print the complete HINQ Menu, enter DVB HMENU-HINQ at the first prompt.  
To print the HINQ User Menu, enter DVB HMENU-USER at the first prompt.

## INQUIRE TO OPTION FILE

This MenuMan option provides the following information about a specified option(s): option name, menu text, option description, type of option, and lock, if any. In addition, all items on the menu are listed for each menu option.

To secure information about HINQ options, the user must specify the name or namespace of the option(s) desired. The namespace associated with the HINQ package is DVB.

## PRINT OPTIONS FILE

This utility generates a listing of options from the OPTION file. The user may choose to print all of the entries in this file, or may elect to specify a single option or range of options. To obtain a list of HINQ options, the following option namespace should be specified: DVB.

## LIST FILE ATTRIBUTES

This FileMan option allows the user to generate documentation pertaining to files and file structure. Utilization of this option via the "Standard" format will yield the following data dictionary information for a specified file(s): file name and description, identifiers, cross-references, files pointed to by the file specified, files which point to the file specified, input templates, print templates and sort templates. In addition, the following applicable data is supplied for each field in the file: field name, number, title, global location, description, help prompt, cross-reference(s), input transform, date last edited and notes.

Using the "Global Map" format of this option generates an output which lists all cross-references for the file selected, global location of each field in the file, input templates, print templates and sort templates.

If you are running Kernel 7/FileMan 19, List File Attributes will be found under the Data Dictionary Utilities.

For a comprehensive listing of HINQ files, please refer to the FILE Section of this manual.

# Glossary

BIRLS	Beneficiary Information and Records Locator Subsystem	
C&P	Compensation and Pension	
DVBHINQ	A security key in the HINQ package.	
HINQ employee number	A number entered into the NEW PERSON file for each user who has a HINQ password. It is distributed by VBA and uniquely identifies each user to VBA.	
HINQ Response	Response from VBA computer to a HINQ request.	
HINQ Suspense File	File which serves 2 major functions - stores HINQ requests for later processing and serves as a log in that HINQ responses are entered here.	
HINQ Suspense File statuses	Pending	request awaiting transmission
	New Mail	successful response received
Error	error occurred in the processing of this inquiry at the VBA computer	
	Abbreviated	abbreviated response received
IDCU error	error occurred in the return transmission of the HINQ string	
IDCU	Integrated Data Communications Utility	
VBA	Veterans Benefits Administration	